

Ability. Agility. Ambition.
Barbarous. Battle.
Capable.



Know your ABC's?
Join us for a lesson.



JAVIER GONZALEZ
Sr. Point Guard,
Class II—T12,
Hesperia, Ca.
Criminal Justice
major.

First Team All American, 1997
#25



DANNY MOORE
Jr. Wing Guard,
Class I—T6,
San Antonio,
TX.
Premed major.

First Team All American, 1996
#33



CEZAR OLIVAS
Jr. Wing Guard,
Class II—T12,
Felt, OK.
Political
Science/
Spanish major.

#10



ENOCH ABLORH
So. Point Guard,
Class III—
Post-Polio,
Stockholm,
Sweden
Mechanical
Engineering
major.

First Team All American, 1997
#30



T.K. DANDELLEY
So. Forward,
Class II—
Post-Polio,
Nairobi, Kenya
Art major.

First Team All American, 1997
#24

Player

Any individual who, because of permanent severe leg disability or paralysis of the lower portion of the body, will benefit through participation in wheelchair basketball and who would be denied the opportunity to play basketball were it not for the wheelchair adaptation, is eligible.

Contact

The chair is considered part of the player. General rules of contact in regular basketball (charging, blocking, etc.) apply to wheelchair basketball.

Time Limits

An offensive player cannot remain more than 4 seconds in the free throw lane while the player's team is in possession of the ball.

Dribble

A player in possession of the ball may not push more than twice in succession with one or both hands in either direction without tapping the ball to the floor again. Taking more than two consecutive pushes constitutes a traveling violation. A player may, however, wheel the chair and bounce the ball simultaneously just as an able-bodied player runs and bounces the ball.

Loss of Ball

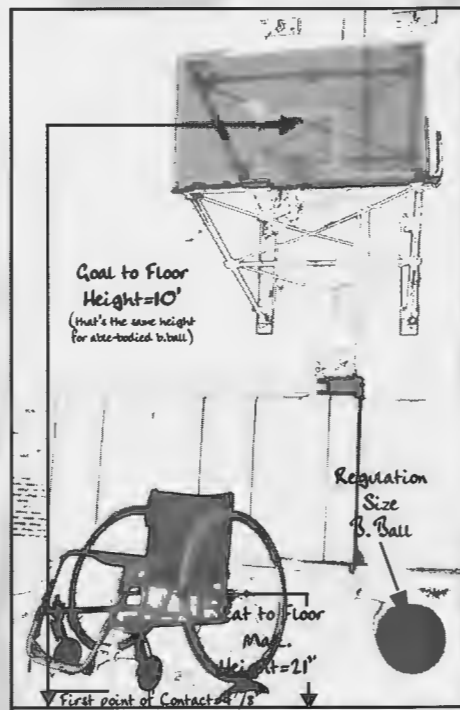
If a player in possession of the ball makes any physical contact with the floor or tilts the chair so far forward that the footrests touch the floor or as far backward that the anti-tip caster touch the floor, it is a violation and the ball is awarded to the other team.

Out of Bounds

A player is considered out-of-bounds when any part of the player's body or wheelchair touches the floor on or outside the boundary.

Physical Advantage Foul

Because there are varying causes and degrees of disability among participants, a basic rule of keep-



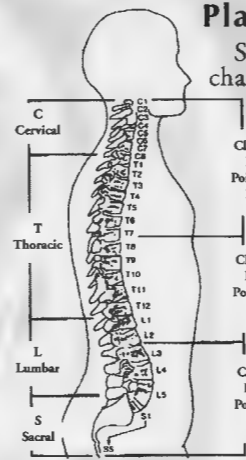
ing firmly seated in the wheelchair at all times and not using a functional leg or leg stump for physical advantage over an opponent, is strictly enforced. An infraction of this rule (rebound, jump ball, etc.) constitutes a physical advantage foul. It is so recorded in the official score book. Three such fouls disqualify a player from the game. Two free throws are awarded and the ball is given to the opposing team, out of bounds.

Falling

If a player falls out of the chair during play, the officials will immediately suspend play if there is any chance of danger to the fallen player. If not, the officials will withhold their whistles until the particular play in progress has been completed. If a player falls out of the chair to gain possession of the ball or by falling keeps opponents from gaining possession of the ball, the ball is awarded to the opposing team.

Player Classification and Team Balance

Some wheelchair athletes use the wheelchair only when involved in wheelchair basketball games. When off the court they walk unaided or with the



Class I Points 1
Complete spinal paraplegia at T-7, or above, or comparable disability that severely limits trunk mobility, balance, arm strength, and range of motion.

Class II Points 2
Complete motor loss at T-8—L-2 or comparable disability (including double hip amputees) that limits forward, backward, sideward trunk mobility and balance.

Class III Points 3
All other ambulatory disabilities. Including lower limb amputees.

help of assistive devices (crutches, walkers, etc.). In fact in Canada the sport has become so popular that able bodied athletes using wheelchairs play.

Therefore, in order to achieve a "level playing field" for all teams and ensure that differently-abled players participate, the National Wheelchair Basketball Association (NWBA) devised a classification/point system to be used when generating the team's roster.

This classification system not only makes it easier to expand interest in the sport providing a larger pool players, but it helps maintain high standards of competition and strong spectator interest. Under the NWBA classification/point system, players on the court must total 12 points or less. Also, no more than three Class III players can play on the same team at the same time.

The Beginning of Wheelchair Sports

The year is 1946, just after World War II. Veterans Administration Hospitals across the nation were full of soldiers that walked onto the battlefields of the Europe and Asia arenas and came home either on wheels or on stretchers. Frustration levels were high. The same unbridled spirit and unchanneled energy that saw them through the war was at the point of exploding. They needed an outlet, and what better arena than sports. Wheelchair sports started with such sports as ping-pong, catch, and pool then to bowling, swimming and volleyball to the more energetic sports of waterpolo, softball, touch football and basketball. Many sports have followed, but basketball has remained the most popular.

By 1948, six teams had been formed by members of the Paralyzed Veterans of America all organized through VA Hospitals. However, the PVA Tournament was poorly organized and only open to paraplegics (or spinal cord injured veterans).

The need for a more inclusive association was the driving force of the National Wheelchair Basketball Association (NWBA). The NWBA was organized to include amputees, polios, orthopedically disabled and paraplegics. In 1949, the groundwork for the first National Wheelchair Basketball Association Tournament was laid by a group of students for the University of Illinois.

The expanding number of conferences and teams (22 conferences and 155 teams) made it necessary to organize a system of regional and sectional post season tournaments to qualify for the NWBA. 1973, saw the emergence of a tournament system where the top two seated teams in each of the four regions advancing to the NWBT.

These initial efforts led to the formation of the Central Intercollegiate Wheelchair Basketball Conference in 1970.

Then in 1977, the University of Illinois hosted the first National Intercollegiate Wheelchair Basketball Tournament—The Final Four of collegiate wheelchair basketball.

The popularity of wheelchair basketball has expanded to include Division I, II, III, Intercollegiate, and women's teams.

Today, over 50 years after wheelchair basketball became an organized sport, spectators can watch these differently-abled athletes compete in just about any sport available to able-bodied athletes

The UTA Movin' Mavs didn't just roll into the intercollegiate arena in 1990—they crashed into it headlong by landing in the Final Four their first year in the National Intercollegiate Wheelchair Basketball league. Then the Movin' Mavs rolled over their competition winning the league for a "Four -Peat" in 1991, 1992, 1993, and 1994. The loss of three starting seniors saw the Movin' Mavs in a rebuilding period in 1995 and 1996, even so they still placed second in both 1995 and 1996. In 1997 the Movin' Mavs again reigned supreme winning the Final Four for the fifth time and having four players selected to the First Team All American squad. The 1998 season proves to be just as exciting! Out of a ten player roster, five are past First Team All American members, two are veterans of two Final Four tournament wins, eight were members of last season's Final Four Championship team. Add to the 1998 roster, two high school "blue chippers" and you'll see a



team ready to explode in this year's conference play!

The Movin' Mavs have proved to be champions off the court as well. NCAA regulations state that scholarship athletes have to maintain at least an individual G.P.A. of 2.0. These athletes decided that a 2.0 was just not good enough for them and did something about it. They met as a team and determined that their motto would be "The Student First and the Athlete Second." To achieve this they maintain a team goal G.P.A. of at least a 3.0 and at this point each member of the team has either a 3.0 G.P.A. or better. The University has seen this determination and has rewarded their efforts by offering 10 scholarships all funded by the university (in 1991 there were only 2 scholarships available, and both relied on off-campus funding).

TAKK KERST
Freshman
Wing Guard,
Class III—L3,
Wray, CO.
English major.

#4

JACK RICKS
Freshman
Power
Forward,
Class III—L-4,
Waco, TX.
Business
Management
major.

First Team All American, 1997
#23

JON RYDBERG
Freshman
Wing Guard,
Class III—L-4,
Pine City, MN.
Video major.

#21

EDDIE MCGEE
Freshman
Power
Forward,
Class III—
Amputee,
Commack, NY
Communication
major.

#22

PAUL SCHULTE
Freshman
Point Guard,
Class III—L-2,
Manchester,
Mich.
Electrical
Engineering
major.

#20

“On behalf of the UTA Movin’ Mavs and The University of Texas at Arlington, I would like to thank the following individuals for their continued support. Their contributions have not only taken the program from meek beginnings to the premier intercollegiate college program in the country, they have had a positive impact on the lives of the players, the University and its mission for all students and the community in which we reside. Thank you!”

— *Coach Jim Hayes*

Buzz Post

Dave Moritz

Senator Mike Moncreif

Chris and Becky Carroll
(Spring Creek Barbecue)

